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LATE ITEM

KATANGAN GENDARMERIE AND UN ETHIOPIAN FORCES HAVE
CLASHED ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF ELISABETHVILLE. A UN HELICOP-
TER WAS DOWNED AND THE UN HAS GIVEN THE KATANGANS UNTIL
2 P.M. TODAY TO RETURN IT. WE CANNOT TELL FROM THE PRESS
REPORTS SO FAR IN WHAT TOUCHED OFF THE FIGHTING OR WHETHER
IT HAS BEEN BROKEN OFF.

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THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST--24 DECEMBER 1962

1. CONGO:

A. ADOULA HAS TOLD GENERAL MOBUTU TO BE READY TO SHUT DOWN PARLIAMENT. A CANVASS OF KEY COMMANDERS HAS CONVINCED MOBUTU THAT THEY WILL SUPPORT HIM RATHER THAN SEE GIZENGA GO FREE.

B. PRESIDENT KASAVUBU IS LUKEWARM BUT WILL GO ALONG WITH THE MOVE.

C. WITHIN ADOULA'S ENTOURAGE, HOWEVER, THERE IS SOME DOUBT THAT HE WILL REALLY CARRY THROUGH.

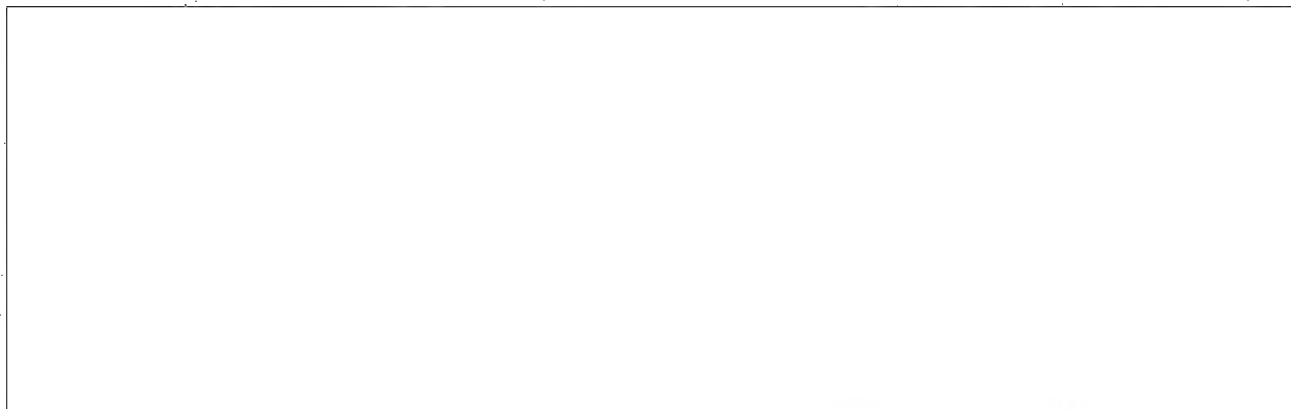
D. THE UNION MINIERE, UNDER PRESSURE FROM SPAAK, SHOWS SIGNS OF WILLINGNESS TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO LEOPOLDVILLE TO BEGIN DISCUSSION OF A PAYMENTS ARRANGEMENT. THE COMPANY SAYS, HOWEVER, THAT IT NEEDS SOME ASSURANCE FROM THE UN AND ADOULA THAT THE STAGE HAS BEEN SET FOR TALKS.

E. IN NEW YORK, BUNCHE HAS TOLD OUR UN DELEGATION THAT UN FORCES IN SOUTHERN KATANGA WOULD MOVE BEFORE THIS MONTH IS OUT TO NAIL DOWN THE RIGHT OF FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT. THIS WOULD ENTAIL REMOVAL OF THE ROADBLOCKS SET UP BY THE KATANGAN GENDARMERIE AROUND ELISABETHVILLE. PRESSED BY OUR REPRESENTATIVE, HE PROMISED TO INFORM THE US IN ADVANCE OF ANY SUCH STEP.

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2. USSR:

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B. THE NUCLEAR TEST SERIES IS COMING DOWN TO THE WIRE WITH A RUSH. THERE WAS ONE DETONATION ON SATURDAY, AND THREE MORE YESTERDAY. ALL WERE [REDACTED] IN THE NOVAYA ZEMLYA AREA.

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3. ECUADOR:

A. AROSEMENA'S DRUNKEN DISPLAY LAST THURSDAY HAS CREATED A FULL-BLOWN PUBLIC SCANDAL. THERE IS A SOLID CONSENSUS AMONG POLITICAL AND MILITARY LEADERS THAT AROSEMENA MUST GO.

B. ALTHOUGH IMPEACHMENT MACHINERY HAS BEEN SET IN MOTION, IT IS BEING SLOWED BY UNCERTAINTY OVER THE SUCCESSION. VICE PRESIDENT VAREA IS RATED UNACCEPTABLE IN VIRTUALLY ALL POLITICAL QUARTERS.

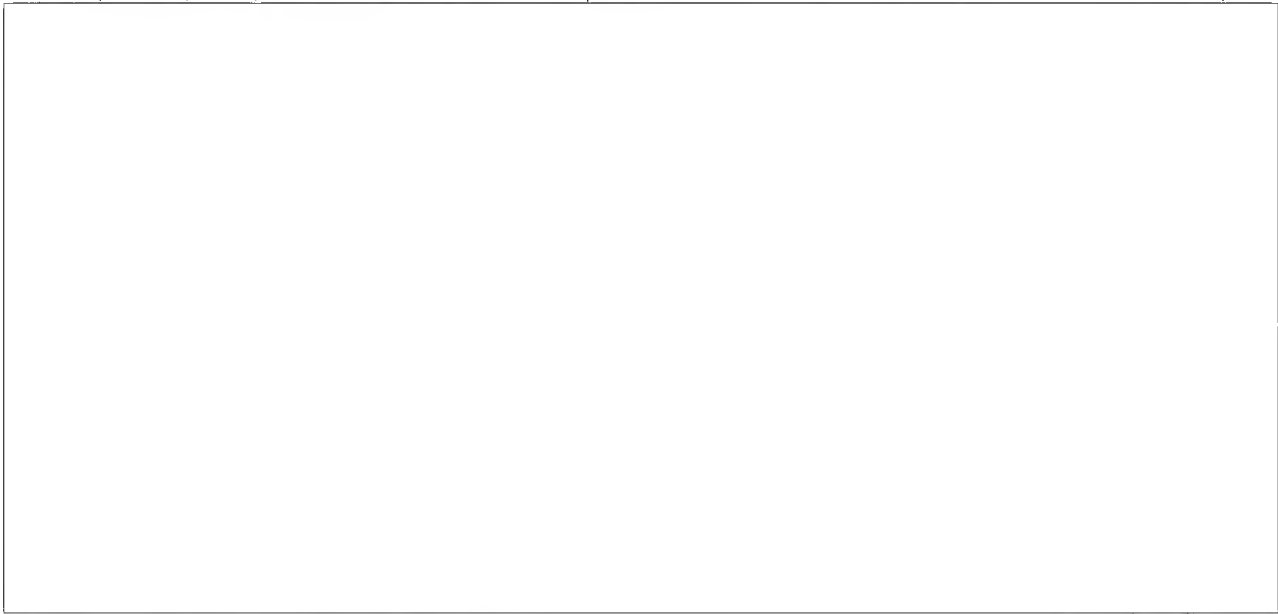


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4. COMMUNIST CHINA:

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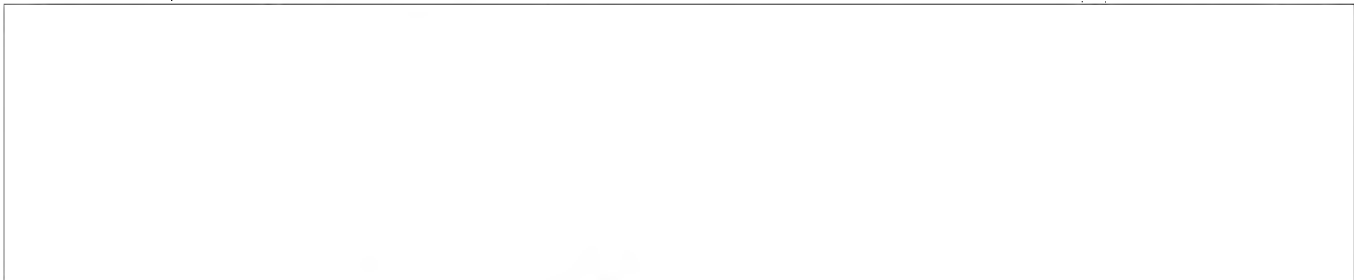
A. THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT SOME ELEMENTS IN THE CHINESE COMMUNIST MILITARY WOULD BE WILLING--OR WERE BEFORE THEY WERE SUPPRESSED--TO PAY A POLITICAL PRICE TO MOSCOW TO REGAIN SOVIET MILITARY ASSISTANCE.



5. ARAB STATES - YEMEN:

A. OUR EMBASSY IN AMMAN FEELS THAT THE JORDANIAN PUBLIC HAS GENERALLY WELCOMED US RECOGNITION OF YEMEN. THE JORDANIAN GOVERNMENT, HOWEVER, IS GIVING VENT TO SOME ILL-TEMPERED RECRIMINATIONS.

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C. THE UAR'S CLANDESTINE VOICE OF THE ARABS AFFIRMS THAT BRITISH REPRESENTATIVES ARE TO BE EXPELLED FROM YEMEN--

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THE PENALTY FOR NON-RECOGNITION. WE LEARN, HOWEVER, THAT THE YEMENIS ARE SEEKING FINANCIAL HELP FROM KUWAIT AND QUESTION WHETHER THEY WOULD IMPROVE THEIR PROSPECTS THERE BY UNDULY ROILING THE BRITISH. [REDACTED]

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6. PERU:

A. THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN WARNED TO EXPECT ANOTHER ROUND OF COMMUNIST-LED LABOR DISORDERS. JUNTA HEAD GENERAL PEREZ GODOY IS REPORTED, MEANWHILE, TO BE ON HIS WAY OUT FOR FAILING TO PREVENT LAST WEEK'S STRIKE VIOLENCE DESPITE AMPLE INFORMATION THAT IT WAS COMING.

B. CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTEES HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED IN TWO AREAS IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE OUTBREAK, AND A NUMBER OF UNION LEADERS AND STUDENTS HAVE BEEN JAILED. A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN HAS PUT THE MAJOR BURDEN OF BLAME ON THE COMMUNISTS BUT SAVES SOME FOR THE HATED APRA PARTY.

7. NOTES:

A. WEST GERMANY: BONN'S EMBARGO ON THE SUPPLY OF LARGE-DIAMETER PIPE TO THE USSR HAS DRAWN A STRONG PROTEST FROM THE SOVIET TRADE MISSION. WEST GERMAN INDUSTRIALISTS HAVE ALSO REGISTERED A COMPLAINT WITH ADENAUER.

B. FRANCE: COUVE DE MURVILLE IS DESCRIBED AS "CAREFULLY NON-COMMITTAL" ON THE POLARIS PROPOSAL. HE SAYS, HOWEVER, THAT DE GAULLE WAS PLEASED THAT THE PRESIDENT AND MACMILLAN HAD COMMUNICATED WITH HIM BEFORE ANY PUBLIC RELEASE.

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C. LAOS: KONG LE HAD SOME BLUNT WORDS OF CRITICISM FOR THE PATHET LAO IN A PRESS CONFERENCE SATURDAY WITH NEWS-MEN ACCOMPANYING SOUVANNA TO THE PLAINE DES JARRES. AMONG THE QUOTES:

"MATERIALLY THE PATHET LAO ARE LAOTIAN BUT THEIR SPIRIT IS FOREIGN"; "WE KNOW THEY NEVER ABANDON THEIR EFFORT TO OBTAIN POWER"; "BEFORE, WE DID NOTHING ABOUT IT. NOW WE TRY TO RESIST THEM AND ARE MAKING PROPAGANDA FOR NEUTRALITY AMONG THE POPULATION."

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET